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PORTAGE COUNTY BUSINESS COUNCIL Resolution December 16, 2009

WHEREAS, the small and large businesses of Portage County, as represented by the Portage County Business Council, are very concerned over the present and future economic development climate for the region and the state of Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 409 (C.O.R.E. Jobs Act) as recently introduced in the state senate by State Senator Julie Lassa, and introduced in the assembly by Assemblyman Louis Molepske, Jr., is a worthwhile attempt to spur regional and statewide economic development while improving Wisconsin's overall business climate; and

WHEREAS, C.O.R.E. Jobs Act as introduced will invest \$15 million in existing public revenue for specific programs, purposes, and pilot programs that will both in the short and long term bring value to the region; and

WHEREAS, specifically, the C.O.R.E. Jobs Act will expand postsecondary education tax credits for businesses; award research grants to the WiSys Technology Foundation; permit area business plan competitions; support the formation of a technology center within the UW System; create rural outsourcing grants; increase Department of Commerce grants for emerging high-tech businesses as well as for manufacturing facilities conversion projects; increase funding for certain technical college training program grants; and by providing an exemption from emergency rule procedures; and

WHEREAS, both private and public sector institutions throughout Portage County would clearly benefit from SB 409;

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the members of the board of the Portage County Business Council, representing over 490 area businesses, hereby urge the Wisconsin Legislature to pass SB 409 this legislative session to then be signed into law by Governor Jim Doyle.

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Pam Jewell, President

Date